



Rev. 11/98

Docket No. UV-114

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Edward B. Knudson et al.
Serial No. : 09/357,941
Filed : July 16, 1999
For : INTERACTIVE PROGRAM GUIDE SYSTEM AND
METHOD
Group Art Unit : 2711
Examiner :

GROUP 2700

JUN 14 2000

RECEIVED

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

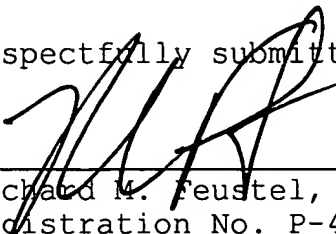
Transmitted herewith is an Supplemental
Information Disclosure Statement in the above-identified
application. This Statement is submitted:

- ☐ within three months of the application filing
date;
- ☒ more than three months from the application
filing date but before the mailing date of
the first Office Action on the merits.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, submission of
this Statement requires no fee. However, if for any reason
a fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to
charge payment of any fees required in connection with this
Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account

No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this letter is transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



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Applicants : Edward B. Knudson et al.
Serial No. : 09/357,941
Filed : July 16, 1999
For : INTERACTIVE PROGRAM GUIDE SYSTEM AND METHOD
Group Art Unit : 2711

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R §§ 1.56 and 1.97, applicant hereby
make of record the following patents in the above-identified
application:

Foreign Patent Documents

WO 93/22877	PCT	11/11/93
WO 98/26584	PCT	06/18/98

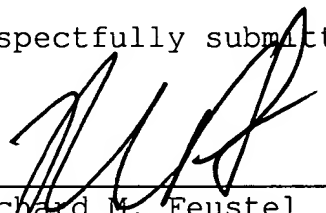
Copies of the aforementioned references, which are listed on the
accompanying Form PTO-1449 (submitted in duplicate), are enclosed
herewith.

Precautionary Certification
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

The information contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. In particular, these references were cited in a March 17, 2000 Partial International Search Report in applicants' corresponding PCT patent application PCT/US99/28128. A copy of that Search Report is enclosed herewith.

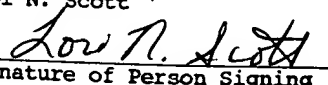
Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this patent application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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June 8, 2000
Lori N. Scott

Signature of Person Signing

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
UV-114SERIAL NO.
09/257,941INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANTSAPPLICANTS
Edward B. Knudson et al.FILING DATE
July 16, 1999GROUP
2711

RECEIVED
JUN 14 2000
GROUP 2700

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
KB	WO 93/22877	11/11/93	PCT	H04N	7/173		
KB	WO 98/26584	06/18/98	PCT	H04N	5/445		

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER INITIAL	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

12/19/07

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

PCT

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:
FISH & NEAVE
Attn. Treyz, G Victor
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

RECEIVED

MAR 23 2000 (PCT Article 17(3)(a) and Rule 40.1)

FISH & NEAVE - PATENT DEPT.
REFERRED TO
NOTED BY

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) 17/03/2000

Applicant's or agent's file reference
UV/114 PCT

PAYMENT DUE within 45 ~~days~~ days
from the above date of mailing

International application No.
PCT/US 99/ 28128

International filing date
(day/month/year) 30/11/1999

Applicant

UNITED VIDEO PROPERTIES, INC

DOCKETED FOR May 1, 2000

1. This International Searching Authority

- (i) considers that there are 4 (number of) inventions claimed in the international application covered by the claims indicated ~~below~~ on the extra sheet:

and it considers that the international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention (Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3) for the reasons indicated ~~below~~ on the extra sheet:

- (ii) ☒ has carried out a partial international search (see Annex) ☐ will establish the international search report on those parts of the international application which relate to the invention first mentioned in claims Nos.:

1-16, 21-37, 42-58, 63

- (iii) will establish the international search report on the other parts of the international application only if, and to the extent to which, additional fees are paid

2. The applicant is hereby invited, within the time limit indicated above, to pay the amount indicated below:

EUR 945.00 x 3 = EUR 2.835.00
Fee per additional invention number of additional inventions total amount of additional fees

Or, _____ x _____ = _____

The applicant is informed that, according to Rule 40.2(c), the payment of any additional fee may be made under protest, i.e., a reasoned statement to the effect that the international application complies with the requirement of unity of invention or that the amount of the required additional fee is excessive.

3. ☐ Claim(s) Nos. _____ have been found to be unsearchable under Article 17(2)(b) because of defects under Article 17(2)(a) and therefore have not been included with any invention.

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority



European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Hans Pettersson

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-16, 21-37, 42-58, 63

interactive EPG (Electronic Program Guide) listings displayed with separators.
interactive EPG arrows corresponding to actions available on the remote control of a user.
interactive EPG provides the user with local information data.
interactive EPG that can auto-tune channels when the user wants to change of channel.
interactive EPG that provides the user with a function to search in displayed program listings.
EPG customizable with a given subset of promotional videos according to the current promotional philosophy.

2. Claims: 17-19, 38-40, 59-61

interactive EPG overlays displayed during a limited time while watching a TV program

3. Claims: 20, 41, 62

interactive EPG enabling to view and set programs as favorite

4. Claims: 64-81

Users can centrally lock or unlock programs and bypass locks when desired

The International Search Authority considers that the present application contains 4 inventions. This observation is based on the following reasons:

The closest prior art identified, WO-A-98/26584, discloses:

an internet program guide system that allows a user at a multimedia system to access information related to television programs over an Internet communications link. The user can view television program guide listings and related video stills and video clips. The user can perform database searches on the program guide listings (e.g., to search for a particular type of television program). If desired, the user can select an option that directs the multimedia system to tune directly to a television channel for a selected program or to a related television program guide or movie guide service on a television channel. The user can order pay-per-view events using the system.

1. WO-A-98/26584 discloses all the features of claims 1-7, 10-16, 21-28, 31-37, 42-49, 52-58, 63. It deprives them of novelty and already solves the problem underlying the first invention. Therefore none of the features of claims 1-7, 10-16, 21-28, 31-35, 37, 42-49, 52-56, 58, 63 can be seen to make a contribution on this prior art (Special Technical Feature, Rules 13(2)). The dependent claims 8, 9, 29, 30, 50 and 51 relate to the highlight or color change of the on-screen-arrow when the user performs an action. This feature are not known from the prior art document and, therefore, there can be considered to be the STF of the first invention. Thus, on the basis of the newly determined STF, a new objective problem needs to be formulated. This could be said to be an improvement of arrow signalization when scrolling program listings.

2. From the comparison of claims 17-19 (claims 17-19, 38-40, 59-61: 2nd invention) the following feature can be seen to make a contribution over the prior art:

- display of a given overlay (flip, browse or none of them) during a user settable period of time.

From this STF the objective problem to be solved by the 2nd invention can be seen as a way to avoid repetitive actions of the user by a reasonable time-out on the display of program listings after the user had got enough time for reading them.

3. From the comparison of claim 20 (claims 20, 41, 62: 3rd invention) the following feature can be seen to make a contribution over the prior art:

- interactive EPG enabling to set programs as favorite after viewing them.

From this STF the objective problem to be solved by the 3rd invention can be seen in a way to customize a tv set and avoid wasting time for re-selecting several time a preferred program.

4. From the comparison of claim 64 (claims 64-81: 4th invention) the following feature can be seen to make a contribution over the prior art:

- Users can centrally lock or unlock programs and bypass locks when desired.

From this STF the objective problem to be solved by the 4th invention can be seen in a way to carry out parental control or purchase of pay-per-view programs.

1. The present communication is an Annex to the invitation to pay additional fees (Form PCT/ISA/206). It shows the results of the international search established on the parts of the international application which relate to the invention first mentioned in claims Nos.:
1-16 21-37 42-58 63
2. This communication is not the international search report which will be established according to Article 18 and Rule 43.
3. If the applicant does not pay any additional search fees, the information appearing in this communication will be considered as the result of the international search and will be included as such in the international search report.
4. If the applicant pays additional fees, the international search report will contain both the information appearing in this communication and the results of the international search on other parts of the international application for which such fees will have been paid.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 98 26584 A (PREVUE INTERNATIONAL INC) 18 June 1998 (1998-06-18) page 8, line 10 -page 43	1-7, 10-16, 21-28, 31-37, 42-49, 52-58, 63
X	WO 93 22877 A (ICTV INC) 11 November 1993 (1993-11-11) page 8, line 12 -page 34	1-3, 6, 22-24, 27, 43-45, 48

☐

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Patent Family Annex

Information on patent family members

Patent Application No

PC1/US 99/28128

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9826584	A	18-06-1998	AU 5696898 A	03-07-1998
			EP 0945003 A	29-09-1999
			NO 992703 A	09-08-1999
			PL 334062 A	31-01-2000
			AU 8913098 A	05-04-1999
			WO 9914947 A	25-03-1999
WO 9322877	A	11-11-1993	US 5412720 A	02-05-1995
			EP 0638219 A	15-02-1995
			JP 7509817 T	26-10-1995
			US 5526034 A	11-06-1996
			US 5594507 A	14-01-1997
			US 5442700 A	15-08-1995
			US 5485197 A	16-01-1996
			US 5550578 A	27-08-1996
			US 5587734 A	24-12-1996
			US 5883661 A	16-03-1999